Maryland Energy ADMINISTRATION

Powering Maryland's Future

Policy 3:

Establish a petroleum consumption baseline for all local government vehicles, and put in place a comprehensive program designed to reduce the baseline by 20 percent within five years of the baseline year.

INTRODUCTION

The transportation sector is responsible for 32 percent of Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions. Reducing emissions from this sector is critical to achieving reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Existing and emerging technologies will allow us to meet our transportation needs with fewer carbon dioxide emissions.

Additionally, decreasing oil supplies worldwide and increasing energy prices throughout the U.S. will impact the security and stability of Maryland's transportation system in the years ahead. The mission of this policy is to address these critical issues facing Maryland transportation systems to ensure mobility for all State residents, making Maryland an attractive place to work, live, and visit.

GOAL

Becoming a Maryland Smart Energy Community requires that a local government (city, town or county) sets the goal of reduce on-road petroleum (gasoline and diesel fuel) consumption by 20%.

DELIVERABLES

By applying to become a Maryland Smart Energy Community, the local government agrees to the following, to be completed by December 31, 2013:

(1) Develop a baseline of fleet efficiency:

Local governments must define their fleet, both local government-owned and contracted service vehicles. The following information in 2 separate spread sheets shall be included in a vehicle inventory list which must be updated on an annual basis:

Local Government-Owned Vehicles

Make	Model	Model Year	Purchase Date	Fuel type used	Gallons consumed	Miles Driven

Contracted Services Vehicles

Make	Model	Model Year	Purchase Date	Fuel type used	Gallons consumed	Miles Driven

(2) Pass a policy committing the local government to reducing on-road petroleum consumption of the local government fleet by 20% within 5 years.

(3) Put in place a Petroleum Consumption Reduction Plan.
The local government shall develop a plan to reduce on-road petroleum consumption 20% from the baseline year. The plan shall outline the process by which the local government will implement this policy, set goals for when the existing fleet will meet a 20% reduction and review said plan on an annual basis.

The baseline year should consist of the most recent year of complete data. For applications in the spring of 2013, this should be 2012. However, to allow communities to take credit for petroleum reduction measures completed in recent years, a municipality may provide a baseline that goes back as far as 2010, and provide a reduction plan that begins in 2011.

Examples of petroleum reduction technologies/strategies include but are not limited to;
Electric, Idle Reduction, Propane, Natural Gas, Ethanol, Biodiesel and Downsizing engines

Additional information on petroleum reduction technologies and strategies can be found on the Alternative Fuels Data Center website: http://www.afdc.energy.gov/

The Alternative Fuels Data Center also offers a Petroleum Reduction Planning Tool which is located at: http://www.afdc.energy.gov/prep/

ANNUAL REPORTING

The local government will submit annual reports to MEA documenting the progress made during that year. Participants must show that they are making a good-faith effort to achieve the transportation petroleum reduction goal. Local governments who earn the Smart Energy Community designation and are up-to-date on their annual reporting may be eligible for grant funding in future years.

PROGRAM SUPPORT

The Maryland Energy Administration will provide technical assistance to all participating local governments to help with (1) developing an initial estimate fleet efficiency, (2) developing and passing the proper policies/ordinances to commit to reducing on-road petroleum (gasoline and diesel fuel) consumption by 20%, and (3) developing a plan to reduce petroleum usage. Participants may also use 20%, or up to $30,000, of their grant award to pay for the administrative costs related to passing this and/or the other required policies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

MEA and the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center are available to provide further information and technical assistance to communities, as requested.

Website: http://energy.maryland.gov/Govt/smartenergycommunities/

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